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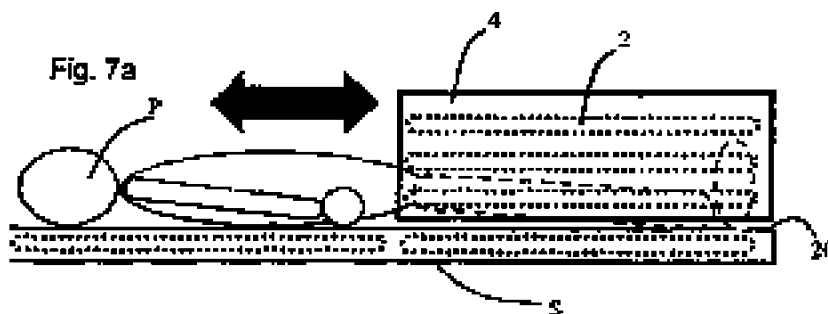
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(54) **Therapeutic light source**

(57) A light source for therapy, such as photodynamic therapy, comprises one or more low pressure or medium/high pressure discharge tubes. In one aspect, the light source comprises a non-planar array of substan-

tially straight tubes. In another aspect, the light source comprises one or more such tubes mounted in a housing having an aperture allowing part of the patient to be located within the housing.





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PARTIAL EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

which under Rule 45 of the European Patent Convention shall be considered, for the purposes of subsequent proceedings, as the European search report

EP 01 30 3412

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (lm.C1.7)
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Y	* page 2, line 29 - page 5, line 26 * * page 9, line 34 - page 13, line 2 * * page 16, line 20 - page 17, line 2; claims 1-3,12,13,18-22,41,45 *	5-15	
X	DE 40 26 327 A (GOLF GMBH & CO KG) 27 February 1992 (1992-02-27) * column 1, line 20 - column 2, line 48 * * column 3, line 15 - column 3, line 26; claims 1-10; figure 1 *	1-10,12, 13,16	
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Y	* page 6, line 8 - page 9, line 8 * * page 10, line 9 - page 10, line 18; figures 1,2 *	1-15	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.C1.7) A61N
-/--			
INCOMPLETE SEARCH			
<p>The Search Daman considers that the present application, or one or more of its claims, does/do not comply with the EPC to such an extent that a meaningful search into the state of the art cannot be carried out, or can only be carried out partially, for these claims.</p> <p>Claims searched completely :</p> <p>1-38</p> <p>Claims searched incompletely</p> <p>Claims not searched :</p> <p>39-46</p> <p>Reason for the limitation of the search:</p> <p>Article 52 (4) EPC - Method for treatment of the human or animal body by therapy</p>			
Plane of search	Date at completion d the search	Examiner	
MUNICH	20 February 2003	Rick, K	
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background D : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or prindple underlying the invention E : earlierpatent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

**CLAIMS INCURRING FEES**

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.

Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claim(s):

No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims.

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

see sheet B

J All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.

As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the Search Division did not invite payment of any additional fee.

Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:

None of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:



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PARTIAL EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
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DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	
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0127091 8/98 PAT. APPROVED



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LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION
SHEET B

Application Number
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The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. Claims: 1-17,38

A therapeutic light source comprising the following features.

1.1. Claims: 1-15

A non-planar array of straight discharge tubes to emit light in the visible spectrum .

1.2. Claim : 16

One or more discharge lamps in a housing with an aperture allowing a part of the patient's body to be inserted into the housing and a suitable concave reflector mounted within said housing.

1.3. Claim : 17

One or more fluorescent grid lamps having a plurality of folds in the same plane.

1.4. Claim : 38

A plurality of low pressure discharge lamps mounted in a housing with a transparent or translucent cover over its aperture the cover including a detachable filter.

2. Claims: 18-37

A therapeutic light source comprising at least one medium/high pressure discharge lamp providing light within a bandwidth of less than approximately 160 nm.

Please note that all inventions mentioned under item 1, although not necessarily linked by a common inventive concept, could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee.

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.
The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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20-02-2003

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For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office. No. 12/82